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Eradication of poverty and other development issues: implementation of the Third United Nations Decade for the Eradication of Poverty (2018–2027)

Report of the Second Committee*

Rapporteur: Ms. Anneli **Lepp** (Estonia)

I. Introduction

1. The Second Committee held a substantive debate on agenda item 24 (see A/73/542, para. 2). Action on sub-item (a) was taken at the 23rd and 26th meetings, on 8 and 30 November 2018. An account of the Committee's consideration of the sub-item is contained in the relevant summary records.[1]

II. Consideration of draft resolutions A/C.2/73/L.9 and A/C.2/73/L.9/Rev.1 and amendments contained in document A/C.2/73/L.62

2. At the 23rd meeting, on 8 November, the representative of Egypt, on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China, introduced a draft resolution entitled "Implementation of the Third United Nations Decade for the Eradication of Poverty (2018–2027)" (A/C.2/73/L.9).

3. At its 26th meeting, on 30 November, the Committee had before it a revised draft resolution (A/C.2/73/L.9/Rev.1), submitted by the sponsors of draft resolution A/C.2/73/L.9.

4. At the same meeting, the representative of Austria, on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the European Union, made a statement and introduced proposed amendments to draft resolution A/C.2/73/L.9/Rev.1, as contained in document A/C.2/73/L.62.

* The report of the Committee on this item is being issued in three parts, under the symbols A/73/542, A/73/542/Add.1 and A/73/542/Add.2.

[1] A/C.2/73/SR.23 and A/C.2/73/SR.26.

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5. Also at the same meeting, the Committee was informed that the proposed amendments had no programme budget implications.

6. Also at its 26th meeting, the Committee rejected the proposed amendments contained in document A/C.2/73/L.62 by a recorded vote of 110 to 45, with 12 abstentions. The voting was as follows:

In favour:

Albania, Andorra, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Canada, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, Estonia, Fiji, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Monaco, Montenegro, Netherlands, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, San Marino, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America.

Against:

Afghanistan, Algeria, Angola, Argentina, Armenia, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cabo Verde, Cambodia, Central African Republic, Chile, China, Colombia, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Gabon, Ghana, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Jamaica, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Lesotho, Libya, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Qatar, Russian Federation, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Sao Tome and Principe, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Singapore, South Africa, South Sudan, Sudan, Suriname, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, Timor-Leste, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Uganda, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Vanuatu, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe.

Abstaining:

Iceland, Liechtenstein, Mexico, New Zealand, Norway, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Sri Lanka, Switzerland, Turkey.

7. At the same meeting, the Committee was informed that draft resolution A/C.2/73/L.9/Rev.1 had no programme budget implications.

8. Also at the same meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.2/73/L.9/Rev.1 (see para. 9).

III. Recommendation of the Second Committee

9. The Second Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolution:

Implementation of the Third United Nations Decade for the Eradication of Poverty (2018–2027)

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 72/233 of 20 December 2017 and all other resolutions related to the eradication of poverty,

Reaffirming its resolution 70/1 of 25 September 2015, entitled "Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development", in which it adopted a comprehensive, far-reaching and people-centred set of universal and transformative Sustainable Development Goals and targets, its commitment to working tirelessly for the full implementation of the Agenda by 2030, its recognition that eradicating poverty in all its forms and dimensions, including extreme poverty, is the greatest global challenge and an indispensable requirement for sustainable development, its commitment to achieving sustainable development in its three dimensions — economic, social and environmental — in a balanced and integrated manner, and to building upon the achievements of the Millennium Development Goals and seeking to address their unfinished business,

Reaffirming also its resolution 69/313 of 27 July 2015 on the Addis Ababa Action Agenda of the Third International Conference on Financing for Development, which is an integral part of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, supports and complements it, helps to contextualize its means of implementation targets with concrete policies and actions, and reaffirms the strong political commitment to address the challenge of financing and creating an enabling environment at all levels for sustainable development in the spirit of global partnership and solidarity,

Welcoming the Paris Agreement,[1] and encouraging all its parties to fully implement the Agreement, and parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change[2] that have not yet done so to deposit their instruments of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession, where appropriate, as soon as possible,

Highlighting the synergies between the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the Paris Agreement, and noting with concern the scientific findings contained in the special report entitled *Global Warming of 1.5°C* of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change,

Looking forward to the climate summit called for by the Secretary-General, to be held in New York in 2019, to accelerate global action on climate change,

Reaffirming the New Urban Agenda, adopted at the United Nations Conference on Housing and Sustainable Urban Development (Habitat III), held in Quito, from 17 to 20 October 2016,[3]

[1] Adopted under the UNFCCC in FCCC/CP/2015/10/Add.1, decision 1/CP.21.

[2] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1771, No. 30822.

[3] Resolution 71/256, annex.

Recalling the 2005 World Summit Outcome[4] and the outcome document of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, entitled "The future we want",[5]

Taking note of Economic and Social Council resolution 2011/37 of 28 July 2011, entitled "Recovering from the world financial and economic crisis: a Global Jobs Pact", of the ministerial declaration adopted at the high-level segment of the substantive session of 2012 of the Council,[6] which called for increased efforts to enhance coordination at all levels with a view to strengthening national development strategies, investing in productive capacities, helping to start and grow business and promoting opportunities for full and productive employment and decent work for all, and of the integration segment of the 2017 session of the Council, which was convened under the theme "Eradicating poverty in all its forms and dimensions through promoting sustainable development, expanding opportunities and addressing related challenges", and taking note of the outcomes of that integration segment, including the notion that poverty eradication and pro-poor principles are among the main goals of national agendas or long-term national strategies, as stated by countries during the 2017 session,

Recalling the Monterrey Consensus of the International Conference on Financing for Development[7] and the Doha Declaration on Financing for Development: outcome document of the Follow-up International Conference on Financing for Development to Review the Implementation of the Monterrey Consensus,[8]

Acknowledging, in this regard, the efforts to implement the Addis Ababa Action Agenda, welcoming the convening of the third Economic and Social Council forum on financing for development follow-up in April 2018, recalling its intergovernmentally agreed conclusions and recommendations,[9] taking note of the 2018 report of the Inter-Agency Task Force on Financing for Development, noting that progress can be reported in all seven action areas of the Addis Ababa Action Agenda, while acknowledging that many implementation gaps remain, and stressing the need for continued substantive deliberation on the implementation of the Addis Ababa Action Agenda in the forum as the designated mechanism to follow up on the financing for development outcomes,

Recalling its resolution 71/243 of 21 December 2016 on the quadrennial comprehensive policy review of operational activities for development of the United Nations system, and its resolution 72/279 of 31 May 2018 on repositioning of the United Nations development system in the context of the quadrennial comprehensive policy review of operational activities for development of the United Nations system,

Welcoming the adoption of the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015–2030 at the Third United Nations World Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction, held in Sendai, Japan, from 14 to 18 March 2015,[10] and recognizing the links between disaster resilience and poverty eradication,

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[4] Resolution 60/1.

[5] Resolution 66/288, annex.

[6] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-seventh Session, Supplement No. 3* (A/67/3/Rev.1), chap. IV, sect. F.

[7] *Report of the International Conference on Financing for Development, Monterrey, Mexico, 18–22 March 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.02.II.A.7), chap. I, resolution 1, annex.

[8] Resolution 63/239, annex.

[9] See E/FFDF/2018/3.

[10] Resolution 69/283, annex II.

Taking note of the adoption of the Nairobi Maafikiano on 22 July 2016, during the fourteenth session of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, held in Nairobi from 17 to 22 July 2016,[11] reaffirming the role of the Conference as the focal point within the United Nations system for the integrated treatment of trade and development and interrelated issues in the areas of finance, technology, investment and sustainable development, and recognizing that trade and development can contribute to the eradication of poverty and that the Conference therefore has a role to play in the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the Addis Ababa Action Agenda,

Concerned at the global and multifaceted nature of poverty and inequality, underlining the fact that the eradication of poverty in all its forms and dimensions, including extreme poverty, and of hunger is an ethical, social, political, environmental and economic imperative of all humankind, and in this regard recognizing that there is a need to better understand and address the multidimensional nature of development and poverty in a multifaceted and integrated approach,

Reaffirming that each country faces specific challenges in its pursuit of sustainable development, that the most vulnerable countries and, in particular, African countries, the least developed countries, landlocked developing countries and small island developing States deserve special attention, as do countries in situations of conflict and post-conflict countries, and that there are also serious challenges within many middle-income countries,

Deeply concerned that poverty acts as a serious impediment to the achievement of gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls and that the feminization of poverty persists, stressing the importance of giving women equal rights with men to economic resources, including access to ownership and control over land and other forms of property, credit, inheritance, natural resources and appropriate new technology, reaffirming that women play a critical role in development, contribute to structural transformation and are key contributors to the economy and to combating poverty and inequalities and that their full, effective and equal participation in decision-making and the economy is vital in order to achieve sustainable development and significantly enhance economic growth and productivity, recognizing that the economic and social losses due to a lack of progress in achieving gender equality and women's and girls' empowerment are significant and that it is therefore critical that our policies and actions are not just gender-responsive but actively seek to advance the goal of gender equality and women's and girls' empowerment, and reaffirming that gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls will make a crucial contribution to progress in realizing the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and are critical factors in the eradication of poverty,

Recognizing that, after the latest global financial crisis, the global economy is still facing difficult macroeconomic conditions, low commodity prices, subdued trade growth and volatile capital flows, that, notwithstanding the impact of the financial crisis, financial flows and developing countries' share in world trade have continued to increase, that these advances have contributed towards a substantial reduction in the number of people living in extreme poverty, and that, despite these gains, many countries still face considerable challenges,

Underlining that the Third United Nations Decade for the Eradication of Poverty (2018–2027) on the theme "Accelerating global actions for a world without poverty", will be important for maintaining the momentum generated by the implementation of

[11] TD/519/Add.2 and TD/519/Add.2/Corr.1.

the Second Decade towards poverty eradication and ensuring that markets work better for people living in poverty,

Reaffirming that climate change is one of the greatest challenges of our time, that its adverse impacts undermine the ability of all countries to achieve sustainable development, that increases in global temperature, sea level rise, ocean acidification and other climate change impacts are seriously affecting coastal areas and low-lying coastal countries, including many least developed countries and small island developing States, and that the survival of many societies and of the biological support systems of the planet is at risk, which further threatens food security and efforts to eradicate poverty and achieve sustainable development, and thus requires urgent action to maintain, preserve and sustain the development gains achieved in the past decades,

Urging all countries that have not yet done so to ratify and accede to the United Nations Convention against Corruption, [12] encouraging parties to review its implementation, committing to making the Convention an effective instrument to deter, detect, prevent and counter corruption and bribery, prosecute those involved in corrupt activities and recover and return stolen assets to their country of origin, as appropriate, encouraging the international community to develop good practices on asset return, expressing support to the Stolen Asset Recovery Initiative of the United Nations and the World Bank and other international initiatives that support the recovery of stolen assets, urging that regional conventions against corruption be updated and ratified, and striving to eliminate safe havens that create incentives for the transfer abroad of stolen assets and illicit financial flows,

Committed to working to strengthen regulatory frameworks at all levels to further increase the transparency and accountability of financial institutions and the corporate sector, as well as public administrations, and to strengthening international cooperation and national institutions to combat money-laundering and the financing of terrorism,

Reaffirming that eradicating poverty in all its forms and dimensions, including extreme poverty, is the greatest global challenge facing the world today and an indispensable requirement for sustainable development, particularly in Africa, in least developed countries, in small island developing States, and in some middle-income countries, and underlining the importance of accelerating sustainable, inclusive and equitable economic growth and sustainable development, including full, productive employment and decent work for all, with a view to reducing inequalities within and among countries,

Recognizing the importance of supporting countries in their efforts to eradicate poverty in all its forms and dimensions, including extreme poverty, and to promote the empowerment of the poor and people in vulnerable situations, including women, children and youth, indigenous peoples and local communities, older persons, persons with disabilities, migrants, refugees and internally displaced persons,

Underlining the primary responsibility of Member States to promote universal health coverage that comprises universal and equitable access to quality health services and ensures affordable and quality service delivery, especially through primary health care and social protection mechanisms, with the support of enhanced international cooperation and with a view to providing access to health services for all, including those who are vulnerable or marginalized, and underlining also that women and children are particularly affected by disasters and outbreaks,

[12] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 2349, No. 42146.

Recognizing the centrality of mobilizing financial and non-financial resources for development at the national and international levels and the effective use of those resources, as well as the importance of policy coherence and a coordinated approach that involves participation at all levels by all actors to promote an enabling environment for sustainable development, and of reinvigorating the global partnership for sustainable development in support of the achievement of the internationally agreed development goals, including the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, which builds upon the unfinished business of the Millennium Development Goals,

Underscoring that, for all countries, public policies and the mobilization and effective use of domestic resources, underscored by the principle of national ownership, are central to the common pursuit of sustainable development, including achieving the Sustainable Development Goals, and recognizing that domestic resources are first and foremost generated by economic growth, supported by an enabling environment at all levels, including well-functioning, efficient and transparent tax systems,

Reaffirming the need to promote private and public investment with the aim of ensuring universal access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy for all in order to achieve poverty eradication,

Acknowledging the important role that multi-stakeholder partnerships, including the private sector, can play in generating new investments, employment and financing for development,

Taking into consideration that official development assistance remains an important source of financing for development in developing countries,

Acknowledging that South-South cooperation is not a substitute for, but rather a complement to, North-South cooperation, and recognizing the contributions of South-South and triangular cooperation to the efforts of developing countries to eradicate poverty and pursue sustainable development,

Looking forward to the second High-level United Nations Conference on South-South Cooperation, to be held in Buenos Aires from 20 to 22 March 2019,

Emphasizing the essential role of inclusive and sustainable industrial development as part of a comprehensive strategy of structural economic transformation in eradicating poverty and supporting sustained economic growth and thus in contributing to achieving sustainable development in developing countries,

Taking note of the work done under the inter-agency, system-wide plan of action for poverty eradication coordinating the efforts of the United Nations system in its advisory and programmatic support to Member States, involving more than 21 agencies, funds, programmes and regional commissions, and encouraging the alignment of that work with the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,

Reiterating the pledge that no one will be left behind, reaffirming the recognition that the dignity of the human person is fundamental, and the wish to see the Goals and targets met for all nations and peoples and for all segments of society, and recommitting to endeavour to reach the furthest behind first,

Recommitting to ensuring that no country or person is left behind and to focusing our effort where the challenges are greatest, including by ensuring the inclusion and participation of those who are furthest behind,

Underlining the priority and urgency given by Heads of State and Government to the eradication of poverty in all its forms and dimensions, including extrem-

poverty, as expressed in the outcomes of the major United Nations conferences and summits in the economic, social and related fields,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;[13]

2. *Recognizes* that the Third United Nations Decade for the Eradication of Poverty (2018–2027) will complement the ongoing efforts of the international community to implement, as applicable, inter alia, the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,[14] the Addis Ababa Action Agenda of the Third International Conference on Financing for Development,[15] the Paris Agreement adopted under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change,[1] the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015–2030,[10] the New Urban Agenda,[3] the outcome document of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development entitled "The future we want",[5] the Istanbul Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the Decade 2011–2020,[16] as well as the Political Declaration of the Comprehensive High-level Midterm Review of the Implementation of the Istanbul Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the Decade 2011–2020,[17] the SIDS Accelerated Modalities of Action (SAMOA) Pathway,[18] the Vienna Programme of Action for Landlocked Developing Countries for the Decade 2014–2024,[19] the declaration entitled "Our ocean, our future: call for action" adopted at the United Nations Conference to Support the Implementation of Sustainable Development Goal 14: Conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas and marine resources for sustainable development,[20] the United Nations strategic plan for forests 2017–2030[21] and Agenda 2063 of the African Union, as well as its first 10-year implementation plan and its continental programme embedded in the resolutions of the General Assembly on the New Partnership for Africa's Development and regional initiatives, such as the Comprehensive Africa Agriculture Development Programme;

3. *Also recognizes* the contribution that the Second Decade has made to poverty eradication, and underlines the importance of drawing lessons from the implementation of the Second Decade and the Millennium Development Goals, in particular with respect to strengthening national statistical capacity and monitoring systems to ensure access to data which are of high quality, accessible, timely, reliable and disaggregated by income, sex, age, race, ethnicity, migration status, disability and geographic location and other characteristics relevant in national contexts, harnessing partnerships, fostering the global exchange of ideas and experiences and showcasing innovative and efficient initiatives and strategies to eradicate poverty, reduce inequalities within and among countries and promote decent work for all;

4. *Reaffirms* that the objective of the Third United Nations Decade for the Eradication of Poverty (2018–2027) is to maintain the momentum generated by the implementation of the Second Decade and to support, in an efficient and coordinated manner, the internationally agreed development goals related to poverty eradication, including the Sustainable Development Goals and their objective of leaving no one behind and reaching the furthest behind first;

[13] A/73/298.
[14] Resolution 70/1.
[15] Resolution 69/313, annex.
[16] *Report of the Fourth United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries, Istanbul, Turkey, 9–13 May 2011* (A/CONF.219/7), chap. II.
[17] Resolution 70/296, annex.
[18] Resolution 69/15, annex.
[19] Resolution 69/137, annex II.
[20] Resolution 71/312, annex.
[21] See resolution 71/285.

5. *Also reaffirms* that eradicating poverty in all its forms and dimensions, including extreme poverty, for all people everywhere, is the greatest global challenge and an indispensable requirement for sustainable development, as well as an overarching objective of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, of which the Addis Ababa Action Agenda is an integral part;

6. *Further reaffirms* that each country must take primary responsibility for its own economic and social development and that the role of national policies and development strategies for the achievement of sustainable development and poverty eradication cannot be overemphasized, and recognizes that increased effective national efforts should be complemented by concrete, effective and supportive international programmes, measures and policies aimed at expanding the development opportunities of developing countries, while taking into account national conditions and ensuring respect for national ownership strategies and sovereignty;

7. *Welcomes* the remarkable progress made since 1990, which has lifted over 1.1 billion people out of extreme poverty, and the unprecedented decrease in the percentage of people living on less than 1.90 United States dollars a day[22] since the beginning of the Second Decade;

8. *Expresses its deep concern* that, while there has been progress in reducing poverty, such progress remains uneven, with 1.3 billion people still living in multidimensional poverty, this number continues to be significant and unacceptably high, the levels of inequality in income, wealth and opportunities remain high or are increasing in a number of countries, and the non-income dimensions of poverty and deprivation, such as access to quality education or basic health services, and relative poverty remain major concerns;

9. *Calls upon* the international community, including Member States and the organizations of the United Nations development system, including the funds and programmes and the specialized agencies, in accordance with their mandates to continue to accord the highest priority to poverty eradication within the United Nations development agenda and to urgently take measures to address the root causes and challenges of poverty in all its forms and dimensions, including extreme poverty, hunger and all forms of malnutrition, in the light of their negative impacts on sustainable development, through integrated, coordinated and coherent strategies at all levels, in accordance with the outcomes of the major United Nations conferences and summits in the economic, social and related fields, and calls upon donor countries in a position to do so to support the effective national efforts of developing countries in this regard through predictable financial resources and technical assistance on bilateral and multilateral bases;

10. *Also calls upon* the international community, including Member States, to continue their ambitious efforts to strive for more inclusive, equitable, balanced, stable and development-oriented sustainable socioeconomic approaches to overcoming poverty, and, in view of the negative impact of all forms of inequality, including gender inequality, on poverty, emphasizes the importance of structural transformation that leads to inclusive and sustainable industrialization for employment creation and poverty reduction, investing in sustainable agriculture and quality, reliable, sustainable and resilient infrastructure to support economic development and human well-being, with a focus on affordable and equitable access for all, enhancing interconnectivity and achieving access to energy, and improving

[22] From 2008 to mid-2015, United Nations reports on the Millennium Development Goals used a poverty line of 1.25 United States dollars a day, converted to national currencies at 2005 purchasing power parity exchange rates. Since mid-2015, the poverty line has been updated to 1.90 dollars a day, converted at 2011 purchasing power parity exchange rates.

access to financial services, as well as promoting decent rural employment, improving access to quality education, promoting quality health-care services, including through the acceleration of the transition towards equitable access to universal health coverage, advancing gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls, expanding social protection coverage, climate change mitigation and adaptation and combating inequality and social exclusion;

11. *Recognizes* the urgent need to address poverty in all its forms and dimensions, including extreme poverty, hunger, malnutrition and food insecurity, which will lead to rich payoffs across the Sustainable Development Goals, and encourages the international community to enhance international cooperation and to devote resources to developing rural and urban areas and sustainable agriculture and fisheries and to supporting smallholder farmers, especially women farmers, herders and fishers in developing countries, particularly in the least developed countries;

12. *Stresses* the resolve to eradicate extreme poverty for all people everywhere, measured since mid-2015 as living on less than 1.90 dollars a day, and the efforts to reduce at least by half the proportion of men, women and children of all ages living in poverty in all its forms and dimensions, according to national definitions;

13. *Invites* all relevant stakeholders, including organizations of the United Nations system and civil society organizations, to share good practices relating to programmes and policies that address inequalities for the benefit of those living in extreme poverty and promote the active participation of those living in extreme poverty in the design and implementation of such programmes and policies, with the aim of achieving the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development;

14. *Welcomes* the contributions of South-South cooperation to poverty eradication and sustainable development and reaffirms that South-South cooperation is an important element of international cooperation for development as a complement to, not a substitute for, North-South cooperation, and commits to strengthening South-South and triangular cooperation as a means of bringing relevant experience and expertise to bear in development cooperation;

15. *Emphasizes* the importance of the outcome of the Second United Nations Decade for Poverty Eradication of promoting and supporting the integration of decent work and poverty eradication into national and international policies, strategies and programmes, with a particular focus on those who risk being left behind, by, inter alia, implementing measures to formalize employment, consider introducing or strengthening minimum wages, guarantee respect for freedom of association and collective bargaining rights, combat all forms of discrimination in employment and end child and forced labour, including in agriculture and rural areas;

16. *Notes with concern* the continuing high levels of unemployment and underemployment, inter alia, among young people, including young women in particular, recognizes that decent work for all remains one of the best routes out of poverty, and in this regard invites donor countries, multilateral organizations and other development partners to continue to assist Member States, in particular developing countries, in adopting policies consistent with the Global Jobs Pact adopted by the International Labour Conference at its ninety-eighth session as a general framework within which each country can formulate policy packages specific to its situation and national priorities in order to promote a job-intensive recovery and sustainable development;

17. *Recognizes* that substantial and efficiently spent investments are needed to improve the quality of and access to education and in order to enable millions of people to acquire skills for decent work, and takes note with appreciation of the report

of the International Commission on Financing Global Education Opportunity and the recommendations contained therein, as appropriate;

18. *Encourages* the international community to support developing countries in their efforts to eradicate poverty in all its forms and dimensions, including extreme poverty, and achieve gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls, the poor and people in vulnerable situations, with a view to achieving the internationally agreed development goals, including the Sustainable Development Goals, as established by the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, which builds upon the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals and addresses their unfinished business, improving tax systems and access to financial services, including affordable microfinance and credit, removing barriers to opportunity, enhancing productive capacity, entrepreneurship, creativity and innovation, encouraging the formalization and growth of micro-, small and medium-sized enterprises, developing sustainable agriculture and promoting full and productive employment and decent work for all, emphasizing the important role of national efforts aimed at bringing workers from the informal to the formal economy, guided, as appropriate, by the Transition from the Informal to the Formal Economy Recommendation, 2015 (No. 204), of the International Labour Organization, complemented by national efforts on effective social policies, including social protection floors, and in this regard takes note of the Social Protection Floors Recommendation, 2012 (No. 202), of the International Labour Organization;

19. *Reaffirms its commitment* to embracing diversity in cities and human settlements, to strengthening social cohesion, intercultural dialogue and understanding, tolerance, mutual respect, gender equality, innovation, entrepreneurship, inclusion, identity and safety, and the dignity of all people, as well as to fostering liveability and a vibrant urban economy and to taking steps to ensure that local institutions promote pluralism and peaceful coexistence within increasingly heterogeneous and multicultural societies;

20. *Acknowledges* that good governance at the national and international levels and sustainable, inclusive, sustained and equitable economic growth, supported by full employment and decent work for all, and social integration, rising productivity and a favourable environment, including public and private investment, inter alia public-private partnership in a wide range of areas, and entrepreneurship, are necessary to eradicate poverty, to achieve the internationally agreed development goals, including the Sustainable Development Goals, which builds upon the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals and addresses their unfinished business, and to realize a rise in living standards, and that corporate social responsibility initiatives play an important role in maximizing the impact of public and private investment;

21. *Stresses* the importance of using multidimensional indicators and developing transparent measurements of progress on sustainable development that complement gross domestic product in order to effectively reflect the reality of the populations of all developing countries, eradicate poverty in all its forms and dimensions, including extreme poverty, and reduce inequality everywhere, in accordance with the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development;

22. *Recognizes* that social and economic development depends on the sustainable management of the natural resources of the planet, and stresses the importance of conserving and sustainably using oceans and seas, freshwater resources, forests, mountains and drylands and protecting biodiversity, ecosystems and wildlife, as well as promoting sustainable tourism, tackling water scarcity and water pollution, strengthening cooperation on desertification, dust storms, degraded land and soil and drought, promoting resilience and disaster risk reduction, addressing

decisively the threat posed by climate change and environmental degradation and implementing the 10-Year Framework of Programmes on Sustainable Consumption and Production Patterns;[23]

23. *Also recognizes* that sustainable, inclusive, sustained and equitable economic growth is essential for eradicating poverty and hunger, in particular in developing countries, and stresses that national efforts in this regard should be complemented by an enabling international environment and by ensuring greater coherence among macroeconomic and social policies at all levels;

24. *Stresses* the importance of taking targeted measures to eradicate poverty in all its forms and dimensions, including extreme poverty, of implementing nationally appropriate social protection systems and measures for all, including social protection floors, and of achieving substantial coverage of the poor and the vulnerable, and encourages Member States to continue to develop and implement social protection floors based on national priorities, paying particular attention to women, children, older persons, indigenous peoples and persons with disabilities;

25. *Also stresses* the importance of policies and actions that are not just gender-responsive but that actively seek to advance the goal of gender equality and women's and girls' empowerment as well as to address longer-term structural issues, including structural constraints faced by women as economic agents, and to remove any barriers that prevent women from being full participants in the economy, by, inter alia, undertaking legislation and administrative reforms, as appropriate, to give women equal rights with men in political and economic decision-making and access to economic resources and to promote the reconciliation of work and family responsibilities, including through paid maternity and parental leave and the redistribution of the disproportionate work burden of women engaged in unpaid work, including domestic and care work, encourages the private sector, in accordance with national legislation, to contribute to advancing gender equality by striving to ensure women's full and productive employment and decent work, equal pay for equal work or work of equal value and equal opportunities, as well as by protecting them against discrimination and abuse in the workplace, and underlines that globally, gross domestic product could increase significantly if every country achieved gender equality and increased participation of women in the formal labour force;

26. *Emphasizes* the reference in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development to the need to ensure the significant mobilization of financial and non-financial resources from a variety of sources, including through enhanced development cooperation, as well as regional, subregional and interregional cooperation, in order to provide predictable means for all developing countries, in particular the least developed countries, to implement programmes and policies to end poverty in all its forms and dimensions;

27. *Stresses* that the achievement of sustainable development and the eradication of poverty also hinge on the ability and readiness of countries to effectively mobilize domestic resources, attract foreign direct investment, fulfil official development assistance (ODA) commitments and use ODA effectively, and facilitate the transfer of technology, on mutually agreed terms, to developing countries, and also stresses that the resolution of unsustainable debt situations is critical for heavily indebted poor countries, while remittances, the transaction costs for which should be reduced, have become a significant source of income and finance for receiving economies and their contribution to the achievement of sustainable development;

28. *Recognizes* that the Addis Ababa Action Agenda provides a global framework for financing sustainable development and is an integral part of the 2030

[23] A/CONF.216/5, annex.

Agenda for Sustainable Development, supports and complements it and helps to contextualize its means of implementation targets with concrete policies and actions, which relate to domestic public resources, domestic and international private business and finance, international development cooperation, international trade as an engine for development, debt and debt sustainability, addressing systemic issues and science, technology, innovation and capacity-building, and data, monitoring and follow-up, and its full implementation will be critical to effectively implement the Third Decade;

29. *Also recognizes* that domestic resources mobilization, underscored by the principle of national ownership and supplemented by international assistance, as appropriate, will be critical to realizing sustainable development and achieving the Sustainable Development Goals;

30. *Further recognizes* that private business activity, entrepreneurship, investment and innovation are major drivers of productivity, inclusive economic growth and job creation and that private international capital flows, particularly foreign direct investment, along with a stable international financial system, are vital complements to national development efforts;

31. *Recognizes* that more can be done to create competitive business and investment climates in support of sustainable development that are well placed to attract private sector investment and participation, and encourages an increase in the volume, quality, in particular its alignment with the Sustainable Development Goals, diversification and long-term nature of foreign direct investment to all developing countries;

32. *Welcomes* the progress on financial inclusion across all income groups and all regions in recent years, while being concerned that 2 billion people, primarily in rural areas in developing countries, still do not have access to formal financial services and remaining concerned about the gender gap in financial inclusion;

33. *Notes* that an important use of international public finance, including ODA, is to catalyse additional resource mobilization from other sources, public and private, and through appropriately designed risk-sharing instruments, including co-investments, public-private partnerships and guarantees, and also notes that it can support improved tax collection, help to strengthen domestic enabling environments and build essential public services and can also be used to unlock additional finance through blended or pooled financing and risk mitigation, notably for infrastructure and other investments that support private sector development;

34. *Emphasizes* that international public finance plays an important role in complementing the efforts of countries to mobilize public resources domestically, especially in the poorest and most vulnerable countries with limited domestic resources;

35. *Stresses* the importance of mobilizing greater domestic support towards the fulfilment of ODA commitments, including by raising public awareness, providing data on aid effectiveness and demonstrating tangible results, encourages partner countries to build on progress achieved in ensuring that ODA is used effectively to help to achieve development goals and targets, encourages the publication of forward-looking plans which increase the clarity, predictability and transparency of future development cooperation, in accordance with national budget allocation processes, and urges countries to track and report resource allocations for advancing gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls;

36. *Expresses concern* that in 2017 ODA fell by 0.6 per cent compared with 2016, while bilateral (country-to-country) aid to least developed countries rose by 4 per cent, after remaining flat for the previous six years, and that ODA was, on average, 0.31 per cent of the aggregate donor gross national income in 2014, below the

commitment of 0.7 per cent, reiterates that the fulfilment of all ODA commitments remains crucial and that, for many least developed countries and landlocked developing countries, ODA remains the largest source of external financing, and therefore emphasizes the importance of the commitments made by many countries to achieve the national target of 0.7 per cent of gross national income and 0.15 to 0.20 per cent of gross national income for official development assistance to the least developed countries, and calls upon developed countries to deliver on their commitments in relation to ODA;

37. *Welcomes* the increasing efforts to improve the quality of ODA and to increase its development impact, recognizes the Development Cooperation Forum of the Economic and Social Council, notes other initiatives, such as the high-level forums on aid effectiveness, which produced, inter alia, the Paris Declaration on Aid Effectiveness, the Accra Agenda for Action,[24] and the Busan Partnership for Effective Development Cooperation, which make important contributions to the efforts of the countries that have made commitments to them, including through the adoption of their fundamental principles, and bears in mind that there is no one-size-fits-all formula that will guarantee effective assistance and that the specific situation of each country needs to be fully considered;

38. *Encourages* all relevant stakeholders, as appropriate, to strengthen United Nations funding for the eradication of poverty in all its forms and dimensions, including extreme poverty, through voluntary contributions to existing poverty-related system-wide funds;

39. *Acknowledges* the complexity of the challenge of poverty eradication, and in this regard emphasizes that, in accelerating poverty eradication and effectively implementing the Third Decade, the organizations of the United Nations development system must be driven by national priorities, including through the United Nations Development Assistance Framework, with the development of national capacities and development strategies in developing countries continuing to be a core area of focus, and operate in an integrated, coordinated and coherent manner, through development programmes and projects that address poverty eradication as their underlying objective, within their respective mandates, in order to ensure that gains are irreversible, making full use of the interlinked and mutually reinforcing pillars of the United Nations development system, and encourages the use of diverse strategies;

40. *Reiterates* the need to strengthen the leadership role of the United Nations in promoting international cooperation for development, and recognizes the role of the specialized agencies and United Nations funds and programmes and regional commissions, including the International Labour Organization, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, the United Nations Development Programme, the United Nations Industrial Development Organization, the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN-Women), the United Nations Population Fund, the United Nations Children's Fund, the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific, the Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia, the Economic Commission for Africa, the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean and the Economic Commission for Europe, in contributing to international advocacy for eradicating poverty in all its forms and dimensions, including through education and training;

41. *Welcomes* the ongoing work by the relevant organizations of the United Nations system to support the implementation of the Third Decade, including the system-wide plan of action to coordinate the efforts of the United Nations system that can accelerate progress towards poverty eradication in all countries, and further

[24] A/63/539, annex.

encourages greater inter-agency convergence and collaboration within the United Nations system in sharing knowledge, promoting policy dialogue, facilitating synergies, mobilizing funds, providing technical assistance in the key policy areas underlying the decent work agenda and strengthening system-wide policy coherence on employment issues, including by avoiding the duplication of efforts;

42. *Calls upon* the relevant organizations of the United Nations system, within their respective mandates and resources, to ensure that no one is left behind and no country is left behind in the implementation of the present resolution;

43. *Calls upon* the international community to give priority to addressing the impacts of natural disasters, climate change, conflicts and major outbreaks of disease which are severely hampering efforts to achieve poverty eradication, in particular in developing countries;

44. *Recognizes* the importance of addressing the diverse needs of and challenges faced by countries in special situations, in particular African countries, the least developed countries, landlocked developing countries and small island developing States, as well as the specific challenges facing many middle-income countries, and therefore requests the United Nations development system, the international financial institutions, regional organizations and other stakeholders to ensure that these diverse and specific development needs are appropriately considered and addressed, in a tailored fashion, in their relevant strategies and policies, with a view to promoting a coherent and comprehensive approach towards individual countries;

45. *Invites* all States, organizations of the United Nations system, intergovernmental organizations concerned and interested national organizations, including non-governmental organizations, to consider organizing activities for the celebration in 2019 of the twenty-seventh anniversary of the declaration by the General Assembly, in its resolution 47/196 of 22 December 1992, of 17 October as the International Day for the Eradication of Poverty, in order to raise public awareness to promote the eradication of poverty and extreme poverty in all countries, and in this regard recognizes the useful role that the observance of the International Day continues to play in raising public awareness and mobilizing all stakeholders in the fight against poverty and promoting the active participation of those living in extreme poverty in the design and implementation of programmes and policies which affect them, with the aim of achieving the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development;

46. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its seventy-fourth session a report that details the response of the United Nations system on the implementation of the Third Decade, includes an inter-agency, system-wide plan of action for poverty eradication to coordinate the efforts of the United Nations system, and contains recommendations concerning how to make the Third United Nations Decade for the Eradication of Poverty (2018–2027) effective, in support of the poverty eradication-related internationally agreed development goals, including the Sustainable Development Goals, utilizing, as appropriate, existing expertise and poverty-related follow-up mechanisms and processes;

47. *Decides* that the theme of the Third Decade shall be "Accelerating global actions for a world without poverty" in line with the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development;

48. *Also decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-fourth session, under the item entitled "Eradication of poverty and other development issues", the sub-item entitled "Implementation of the Third United Nations Decade for the Eradication of Poverty (2018–2027)", unless otherwise agreed.